

REMARKS

Applicants have now had an opportunity to carefully consider the Examiner's comments set forth in the Office Action of November 2, 2005.

Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-20 remain in this application.

Claims 15-19 have been withdrawn.

Claims 1, 5, 12, 15-18, and 20 have been amended.

The Office Action

Claim 5 was objected to for informalities. Claim 5 has been amended to recite that the the % reflectance of the reflective interior surface is at least 94.5% of an equivalent reflective interior surface without the protective layer in the visible spectral range of 400-800 nm.

Claim 12 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

Claims 1-11, 13-14, and 20-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,382,816 to Zhao, et al.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate subject matter of claim 12, against which no prior art rejections were made, and to attend to the §112 rejections of the subject matter incorporated from claim 12. Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 1 and dependent claims 2-11 and 13-14 are now in condition for allowance.

Claim 12, against which no prior art rejections were made, has been placed in independent form. Claim 12 has amended to recite the units of quarterwaves for the optical thickness, as supported by the specification at paragraphs [0059] and [0060].

Claim 15 has been amended to depend from claim 1. It is respectfully requested that claim 15, and dependent claims 16-19, be rejoined, should an allowable method claim be found.

Claim 20 has been amended to recite a method of forming a lamp comprising providing a reflective surface which includes silver and covering the reflective surface with a protective layer which is light transmissive. The protective layer has an optical thickness t_{OPT} in quarterwaves which satisfies the relationship:

$$1.1(1 + 0.9n) \leq t_{OPT} \leq 1.4(1 + 0.9n)$$

where n is an integer from 0 to 5.

The Zhao patent, cited against claim 20, discloses a protective layer of silica having a thickness in the range of between about 0.05 and about 0.4 micrometers (500-4000 Angstroms), preferably, around 0.05-0.14 micrometers. There is no suggestion in Zhao of selecting only those thicknesses which meet the claimed expression. Zhao makes no recognition of there being specific, narrow ranges of thickness at which properties, such as color correction temperature and reflectance are maximal. Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 20 distinguishes patentably and unobviously over the references of record.

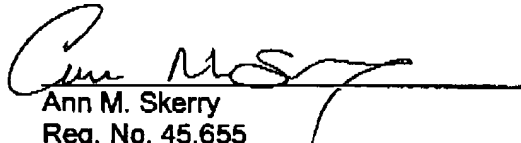
CONCLUSION

For the reasons detailed above, it is respectfully submitted all claims remaining in the application (Claims 1-20) are now in condition for allowance.

In the event the Examiner considers personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is hereby authorized to call the undersigned, at Telephone Number (216) 861-5582.

Respectfully submitted,

FAY, SHARPE, FAGAN,
MINNICH & McKEE, LLP



Ann M. Skerry
Reg. No. 45,655
1100 Superior Avenue, 7th Floor
Cleveland, Ohio 44114-2579
(216) 861-5582

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